

THE
 CHARACTER
 AND
 PRINCIPLES
 Of the PRESENT
 Sett of Whigs.

*Tristius haud Illis Monstrum, nec seior ulla
 Pestis, & Ira Deum Stygiis sese extulit undis.*
 Virg.

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 Enlarged.

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BY *Whigs* I do not mean those who are heartily well affected to the *present Government*, and the *Hannover Succession*; nor those, who maintaining the Principles of our Established Church, are yet for preventing all undue Excesses both in Church and State. This (as I shall abundantly prove) is not *Whiggism*; whatever may be pretended by the Professors of it. If it were, I should be so far from condemning it, that I should be a staunch *Whig* my self.

Nor, on the other hand, do I mean the *Old Puritanical Whigs*; nor the *well-designing Low-Church-Men*, who are deceived by the Sound of that enchanting Word *Moderation*; and wheedled in (contrary to their real Intentions) to assist others in weakening the just and legal Powers both of the Ecclesiastical and Civil Constitution. These indeed are greatly *in the wrong*, but then they *don't know it*; and I am so far from designing to provoke *Them*, that I am endeavouring to do them Service: Which, I think, I cannot better do, than by giving them a just Character of the *True Genuine Whigs*; by whom these *well-meaning* Ones are *deluded*, and whom they would immediately abandon, had they a right Notion of *Them*, and their Principles.

Not but that they are easy enough to be known by all *unprejudiced* Persons. The Word *Whig*, indeed, like all other Words that have been long in use, has ran thro' various Significations. But what the Original Meaning of it was, and what Changes it hath since undergone, we need not enquire; since those who at present enjoy the Privilege of this Name, are so remarkably distinguished, that there is no fear of mistaking them for any other sort of Men. Their *Notions of Government*, their *Religion*, their *Temper*, and *Moderation*, are so peculiarly new and astonishing; They have owned their Principles so *openly* and *boldly*; have formed themselves into such *Companies* and *Corps*; and are listed under *Officers* of such Note and Eminence; that a *Whig* is now as easily known, as a *Quaker* or a *Granadier*.

As to their *Scheme of Government*, it is of the old *Chaos-make*, without form and void; and *Darkness is upon the Face of it*. A *Scheme* it is, in which all Distinctions are lost; all Ranks and Degrees of Men confounded. For the *People* are the Sovereign, the Representative, the Magistrate, and every Body else.

It has been warmly debated in all Times, *what Form of Government was the best*; whether *Monarchy*, *Aristocracy*, or *Democracy*, was most likely to promote the publick Welfare. But the *Whigs* have now put an end to that famous Controversy, by melting down all those Forms into the *Collective Body of the People*. For their Doctrine is, that neither *Prince*, *Lords*, nor *Commons*, neither *Senates*, *Diets*, nor

States, nor any kind of *Magistrates*, singly or jointly, either have, ought to have, or can have, any proper Power, Authority, or Pre-eminence residing in them; but that all of them, whatever governing Names, or Titles they bear, are really and truly nothing more than a sort of *Agents*, or *Attornies* for the *People*; acting by a precarious Commission from *Them*, which can be granted no otherwise than during *Pleasure*. For Power is so inseparably, and unalienably inherent in the *People*; that they cannot so much as lease it out for any Term whatsoever.

There have been likewise great Disputes about the *Divine Right* of Government: Some have undertaken to shew that Kings alone were established *Jure Divino*; others were of Opinion that Government in general was by Divine Right, but that no particular Form was the Ordinance of God (so as for ever to oblige all Mankind) any more than another. But wherever the supreme Power was lodged, it was universally believed, till now, that God required our Obedience to it: From whence arose new Contentions concerning the *Supremacy*; in what Hands it was lodged; how far it was absolute, and in what respects limited; and how we ought to direct and proportion our Submission accordingly. But the World, it seems, has been all this while miserably mistaken in these Matters; and thousands of Books have been writ, and thousands of Battles fought, to no manner of Purpose. For alas! God Almighty himself (according to the *Whigs*) has no Right, nor any thing like it, to impose any Government upon us, or to put us under an Obligation of obeying any Magistrate whatsoever, farther than the *People* give their Consent; which they are at Liberty to retract, whenever it is for the Common Good so to do, of which they themselves are to be sole and absolute Judges.

Some Persons there are in the World, who have strange Notions of the *Power of the Law*. The Law (say they) is Supreme; the Law is above the Prince, and every Body else; and we are all of us, both Magistrates and People, obliged to stand by the Law, and defend the Law. But the *Whigs* say the Law signifies nothing, unless the *People* think fit to approve and confirm it. Their Ancestors had nothing to do to make Laws for *Them*; and if the present Generation of *Whigs* don't like the Laws which were made before their time, they are not obliged by them; they are still in a *State of Nature*, any former Laws, Compacts, Oaths, or even Divine Revelation, to the contrary in any wise notwithstanding. *Magna Charta*, and even the *Original Contract* are out of Doors, and *Parliaments* have no more Power or Authority, than *Kings*.

The *People* then (according to the *Whig Scheme*) are the whole Government; they have all the Power of the Society in them, and are vested with an absolute and uncontrollable Authority in all things relating to the Publick Interest; only with these two small Limitations, *viz.* That no Body is to be concluded by a *Majority*; and that

no Magistrate's Power extends to *indifferent Things*: And then, I am sure, it will be very hard to say, *what it does extend to*. This Scheme, you see, is *clear*, and free from *all Difficulties*. The Governours are the Governours, and the Governours are the Governed, or (more properly) there is no such thing as any Government at all. So that the Whole may be reduced to four Questions, like those stated by the two Kings of *Brenford*. 1. Who they are that Govern? 2. Whom they Govern? 3. How they Govern? And 4. Whether they Govern, or no?

In order to dissolve all Government, the *Whigs* are exceedingly given to *Change*; and particularly from a *Monarchy*, (tho' a *mixed* and *limited* one) to a *Commonwealth*; because the latter approaches somewhat nearer to *Anarchy* and *Confusion*, than the former. Our Plan of Government, one would think, is well enough calculated for the *Liberty of the Subject*; but then there's something of *Monarchy* in it, and that is an *Abomination* to the *Whigs*. If they must have Government; nothing will satisfy them, but that *Idol* of their Souls, a *Republick*.

As a Consequence of this, the *Whigs* have no manner of *Reverence* or *Respect* for *Royalty* and *Crowned Heads*; nor the least Notion of what we call *Duty to their Sovereign*. On the contrary, they are saucy and impudent to Majesty, and make it their Business to govern their Prince instead of being governed by him. When they were *M—rs* of *S—te*, did they not dictate to their *Q—* as if they were Her Masters? Did they not peremptorily disobey Her Commands, whenever they were disagreeable to their own Inclinations? And on the other side, fix Her Name, without Her Knowledge, to a notorious publick Lye; and endeavour to let Her have the Scandal of telling it? Did they not despise, or curse Her behind Her Back, insult and affront Her to Her Face, and proportionably rise in their Insolence and Ingratitude, as they did in Places and Preferments? Instances of this kind are innumerable; and as well known to the World, as their unprecedented Impudence, and almost Treason, in bringing first the Directors of the Bank, and then the *D—ch*, to interpose with Her *M—y* about the Change of Her *M—y*, and *P—nt*; in admonishing Her to dispatch away Her *G—l* when they thought fit; in their Votes and Resolutions about making Peace and War; and (in short) in their open Attacks upon every Branch of the *Royal Prerogative*.

Inspired by these generous Principles, they are always ready for a Rebellion, whenever Things do not go according to their own Minds. Witness the many *Whigs* committed to Gaol in several Parts of the Kingdom, for speaking treasonable Words upon the Change of the late *M—y*, and the Dissolution of the late *P—nt*: Witness those Officers of the Army in *Flanders*, who are only discarded, but not yet hanged: Witness those *Irish Whigs* in the County of *Meath*, who were for entering into a kind of Association to *STAND BY*
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the late Ministry: And that Member of Parliameht in the same Kingdom, who about four Months since said openly in a formal Speech in the House of Commons, that He heard the Q—— was retiring into a Monastery to make way for the Pretender.

One Fundamental Principle of the *Whigs*, is to make the loudest Clamour against those very Qualities for which themselves are of all Mankind most remarkable; endeavouring by this Noise to stun *Peoples Heads*, and confound their Understandings, and by downright Dint of Impudence, to make them believe contrary to their Experience and their Senses. What a frightful Outcry have they always made against *Tyranny and Arbitrary Power*? Accordingly, whenever they are uppermost themselves, they are the most Arbitrary, Insolent, and unmerciful of Tyrants. *Liberty and Property*, and the *Laws of the Land*, are things for which they pretend an extraordinary Zeal and Concern: And when they are in Power, they make no Scruple of setting aside the Laws of the Land, that they may effectually destroy the Liberty and Property of their Fellow-Subjects. They are just as careful to preserve the Liberty of the Subject, as the Prerogative of the Crown; that is to say, they will at any time sacrifice *Both* to the Gratification of their Covetousness, Malice, or Ambition. They are always pleading for *Moderation*, and exclaiming against the Fury and Violence of the *High-flyers*. At the same time they shew their own Moderation by the most outrageous *Railing, Cursing, Malice, Injustice and Oppression*, by *drinking Damnation and Confusion* to all who are not of their own Party, by distressing them in their Fortunes, or *cutting off their Noses*; by persecuting and tearing in pieces those that vote or make *Interest* against them, buying up Debts on purpose to make the poor Debtors rot in Gaol, and beggaring and undoing whole Families, only because they would not be prevail'd upon to be as wicked as themselves. They are continually preaching *Peace and Unity*, and expressing their Dislike of *Parties and Divisions*; and all the while, they are themselves the only Disturbers of the Peace; they are perpetually laying in fresh Matter for Contention, and by their abominable Corruptions making Quarrels necessary. For all that, they still persist in their Exhortations to Love and Forbearance, and beg you to keep the Peace, the very Moment they are cutting your Throat.

To prove their extream Hatred of Tyranny and Arbitrary Power, their Religious Adherence to the known Laws of the Land, their Care to preserve the Liberty and Property of the Subject, as also their Moderation, Temper, Gentleness, and love of Peace; I shall mention only one Instance, because it is a very complicated one, and that is their famous *Roasting of the Parson*: An Expression (by the way) so insolent, barbarous, and insulting, that nothing could better shew the true Spirit of a *Whig*, except the Action. Thus were the Rights of the free People of England secur'd by their own *Representatives*. And was there ever so much Spight, Rage and Bitter-

Bitterness shewn upon any Occasion? Let that Transaction, among a hundred others, remain upon Record as a lasting Monument of the Moderation of the *Whigs*, of their Zeal for the Liberty and Property of their Fellow-Subjects, and of their Aversion to Tyranny and Arbitrary Power.

Now we are upon this Head, I cannot but observe the different Use which the *Tories* and *Whigs* make of the *Litany*; that every Body may plainly see the Rage and Heat of these *Tories*, and the Moderation of the *Whigs*. Dr. S——l in his Speech earnestly beseeches God to deliver them, and all Orders and Degrees of Men among us, from all false Doctrine, Heresie and Schism, from hardness of Heart, from Contempt of his Word and Commandment, from Envy, Hatred and Malice, and all Uncharitableness: The *Whigs*, in their turn, to shew you that they can pray upon occasion, in their way, and that too in the Words of the *Litany*; drink Plague, Pestilence and Famine, BATTLE and Murder, and sudden Death, God's Wrath, and everlasting Damnation to S——l, and all his Friends!

Tyranny and Arbitrary Power are certainly very ill Things; they are exceeding grievous, even in a King or Queen, in one's lawful Prince and Sovereign. But to be Tyranniz'd over by one's Fellow-Subjects, by one's Equals, nay Inferiors, is altogether insupportable. And yet that is the Bondage which the *Whigs* would bring us under. They have indeed some Persons of Quality and Figure among them; but the Generality of them are a Pack of Upstarts, who being born to no Estates, nor even to the Titles of Gentlemen, have got their Wealth by cheating the Publick; and some of them are from the vilest Beginnings, grown big enough to jostle the most ancient Gentry and Nobility of the Kingdom.

This is one Reason of their being such irreconcilable Enemies to Monarchy. That Form of Government keeps up the Grandeur of illustrious Families, which the *Whigs* are for confounding and destroying; because the only way to make them considerable, is to have all Honour and Greatness consist in nothing but in getting Money.

Upon the same Principle, whenever they are uppermost, their *Justices of Peace*, and other *Commissioners* in all the Counties of the Kingdom, are generally such obscure Plebeian Magistrates, as never were entrusted with Power, since the Reign of their *Committees of Safety*. Men of Birth, Fortune, Honour and Education, must be griev'd and injur'd in point of Taxes, and in other Instances, by a Set of Scoundrels, scarce able to write their own Names; which were scarce ever heard of till they were put into *Commissions*.

But if you want more illustrious Examples of this kind, pray enquire at the H—— of C——ns; the Benches there having been little better fill'd during the Dominion of the *Whigs*, than those at the Assizes and Quarterly Sessions. There was certainly never such a List of Senators, since Senates were in the World. They came thither, not because they *had*, but because they *wanted* Estates: A large

large Fortune, and Credit in one's Country, were no longer Qualifications for a Member of Parliament: The very Pretence to common Justice was abandon'd: Honesty and good Sense were perfectly out of Countenance: The Gravity of a Senate seem'd to be exploded as a ridiculous Notion; and Noise, Impudence, Ribaldry, and dull Jestings, succeeding in the room of Eloquence and Argument. Was there ever such an Example (not to mention forty others) of bare-fac'd Injustice, destructive of all Right and Liberty, and even the very Being of Free Parliaments, as the famous Case of the *Abingdon* Election? When a Gentleman of the highest Reputation, and since promoted to the highest Dignity, eminent for his Services to his Queen and Country, and celebrated all over Europe for his prodigious Parts and Learning, was thrown out of the House by the *Whigs*, after he had been chosen by a Majority of above Three to One, and the Election had been publickly yielded and given up by his Competitor; nay, after they had put it upon three different Issues, (all of them false ones) and even then he had a visible confess'd Majority, even according to the most unreasonable of their own Accounts? And all this to make way for a worthless, beggarly Tradesman; who had no Merit to recommend him, but that of being as very a *Whig* as those that Voted for him.

It was indeed no wonder that the *Whigs*, tho' they had so vast a Majority, durst not bear the Presence of so great a Man as Sir *Samuel Johnson*; whose unconquerable Reasoning, clear Wit, and exact Eloquence, must necessarily have tended to their Shame and Confusion. Had He continu'd in the House, even *William Pitt* and *Lord Bute* would have been less pragmatical, noisie and impertinent; *John Wilkes* would not have made his stiff Harangues with so dogmatical an Air; nay, *Mr. Fox* himself would have talk'd Bawdy and Blasphemy with some Caution. However, the *Whigs* (notwithstanding their Fear) could not have been guilty of such shameful Injustice, were they not acted by a Spirit of the most ungentlemanly, and even unmanly Baseness; and had they not abandon'd the Principles of Heathen Honour, as well as of the Christian Religion. Of which latter we shall take more particular notice, before we have done.

Another Pretence, which they value themselves upon, is That of being Patriots and Lovers of their Country. To prove how much they are so, we are to consider their pillaging and fleecing the Nation; their loading it with Burthens unnecessary and almost insupportable; their getting vast private Estates by plundering the Publick, and their living like so many Rapparees, or Free-booters upon their Country; insomuch that it may be a doubt, whether we have suffer'd more from the *Whigs*, or from the *French*: Their Care and Industry to plunge us into such Debts, which might have been avoided, notwithstanding this necessary War, and which our Posterity of the second Generation will be scarce able to pay: Their abhorring all Publick

Publick Accounts, and making it their Business to hinder all Enquiries into the State of the Nation, Army and Navy : Their bringing over so many thousand *beggary Palatines*, in order to starve the same number of *Britons* : Their being far more zealous for a neighbouring Nation than for their own, and sacrificing several Branches of our Trade to the Interest of that Republick : Their infamous Neglect of the War by Sea ; where it might plainly have been carried on with the greatest Success, and yet taking particular Care to impoverish and ruin our Fleet ; as if that in which the great Strength of an Island lies, ought, above all things, to be weakned and destroy'd by its own Inhabitants : Their Diligence and Artifice in prolonging the War ; which they have all along made use of to enrich themselves, and drain every body else ; to raise Lies upon honest Men ; to destroy the Constitution, and enslave their Country : Their Twice refusing most advantageous Offers of Peace, and then labouring to throw our Affairs back into such a Condition, that we might never have the like Offers again : Their starving the War in Spain, for which alone they pretended to fight ; always hindring Supplies from being sent to that Kingdom ; pushing the Spanish Monarchy from us, even after it was fallen into our Hands, in spite of their Endeavours ; owning and resolving, that there was but one Third of the Forces which ought to have been there, and which the Nation paid for, and then declaring that all was well, the Management was very good, and the want of the other two Thirds did not in the least occasion the Loss of a Battle, which was the visible Consequence of it.

Here it is impossible not to reflect upon their scandalous Usage of the E. of P——b, and not to remember how they slander'd and oppress'd him ; denied him both Money and Men ; and at last got him turn'd out of his Command, for almost reducing the whole Kingdom of Spain without either.

We must likewise unavoidably take notice of their own celebrated Hero, who is said to have conquer'd Spain. And how did he do it ? Why, I am told, he occasion'd our Victory at *Almanza* by his false Musters : He was at the Battle of *Saragossa* (where no other General, to be sure, had any thing to do) and his Regiment was the only one that gave way. A little after, in spite of the prodigious Bravery and Conduct of General *Ssaremburg*, the aforesaid Hero was pleas'd to lose us another Battle more fatal than that of *Almanza* ; which he did by a kind of Management not to be parallell'd in History ; without giving us any satisfaction, but the Amusement of conjecturing, whether it were owing to his Ignorance, his Cowardise, or his Treachery.

Hujus ab Auspiciis infaustum, MORESQUE SINISTROS

Lumina tot cecidisse Ducum, totamque videmus

Consedisse Urbem luctu.

But the greatest Argument of all, to prove how much the Whigs are Lovers of their Country (which I hope their Country will never forget) is their refusing, for a long time, to lend their Money to the Government for the Support of the War, though they could no other way

way employ it to so great Advantage; and their labouring, with all their Might, to sink the Publick Credit of the Nation. And all this out of Spight and Malice, only because Her M——ty would no longer bear such Management as I have been representing; but ventur'd to exercise one Branch of Her Prerogative, in changing Her M——try and P——nt. *Rule or Ruin*, it seems, is the Word with the Whigs; because they cannot Tyrannize over us for ever, they will obstruct the faithful Endeavours of the M——ry, do all they can to break the Publick Credit, and give us over for a Prey to our Enemies. This Resentment of theirs, no doubt, was well ground-ed: The late Changes were made before their great Design was perfected, before their *Bank* had quite enslav'd us. That Body is certainly very useful, when it keeps within its due Bounds: But can any Man that is really a Lover of his Country, reflect upon a Design of bringing it into Servitude, without the utmost Horror, and without thinking them to be the worst of Men who had such a Design? And is not a Nation enslaved, when two or three hundred Men shall get all the Money in their own Hands, so as to be able to govern the Cr——n, make the P——nt, trample upon their Fellow-Subjects, and overturn the Constitution, contrary to the Wishes and Inclinations of five Parts in six of the whole Kingdom? If this be not *Slavery*, what is? And how near that Project was to be effected, appears from the exceeding great difficulty with which some late important Changes have been made. We have avoided it almost by a Miracle; by a happy Turn of Affairs, by Her M——ty's Courage and Prudence, and the Advice and Assistance of Her best and wisest Councillors, we are delivered at present: Let us be infinitely apprehensive of such Danger for the future, that we may not split upon that fatal Rock, which we have now so narrowly escap'd. And because we have escap'd it, the Whigs are so mad with Rage and Vexation, that they would ruin us another way, by breaking the Publick Credit, and fairly giving us up to the French. This (God be thank'd) they have not been able to effect; the Publick Credit flourishes more than it has done for many Years: They have chang'd their Note now, and love their own Interest too well to keep their Money in their Coffers, since they see the Government will neither be baffled by their Tricks, nor hecor'd by their Insolence. But, however, we have seen their good Will; they have made their utmost Efforts; they would ruin us if they were able, though they applied to the French, the Pretender, the Turk, the Pope, or the Devil, for Assistance.

The mention of the Pretender puts us in mind of another Instance. What use have the Whigs ever made of his Name, to abuse all who are not of their own Principles? not one of whom has, with the least reason, been suspected to be at all inclin'd to his Interest. Because they assert the Principles of Non-Resistance to Governors, and of Hereditary Right, to this Kingdom; one of which is a plain Doctrine of the Scriptures, and the other is fundamental to our Constitution; therefore they must be Jacobites and Enemies to the present Establishment: Whereas they know nothing of any Right the Pretender has,

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and heartily wish there was no such Person in being. The *Whigs* on the other side, would not lose him for the World, considering how useful he is to them, by furnishing them with matter of Lies and Scandal upon those, who they know abhor his Interest much more than themselves.

The Truth is, the *Whigs themselves are Jacobites*, if there be any such thing as a *Jacobite* in Nature. Contrary to their Oath, they assert the *Legitimacy* and *Hereditary Title* of the *Pretender*; and then insist upon the *Lawfulness*, nay *Duty of resisting the present Government* (as well as any other) whenever they think the publick Good requires it. A famous Example of their Aversion to him we have in a neighbouring Kingdom. A *Presbyterian Bookseller* was indicted not long since, for publishing a *Pamphlet* in which the *Pretender's* Hereditary Title is asserted in the plainest and strongest Terms imaginable. One of the Judges declar'd he knew no harm in the Book, and thought it no Libel. The good L. C. J. though it was undeniably prov'd, and he himself own'd that the Person accus'd had printed and dispers'd a great Number of them, yet insisted upon it, that there was no Proof of its being publish'd as a Libel. And the Jury being as good Subjects as the Judges, the Criminal was very fairly acquitted. But this Instance of that L. C. J.'s Affection to Her Majesty is trifling, in comparison of another, which happen'd a little before. One of his own Party was indicted for saying, *That if the Q— invaded his Right, he would cut her Throat; or if he could not do it himself, he would join with them that could.* This was proved as plainly as any thing is capable of being prov'd, upon the Oaths of several Witnesses. Upon which the L. C. J. after having Brow beaten and abus'd them for their Evidence, and ask'd one of them (who was a Clergyman) several impertinent Questions about the 13th Chapter of the Epistle to the Romans, inclin'd the Jury to acquit the Prisoner, which was done accordingly. But the same *Governing Powers* could be severe enough upon some Occasions, and against some Persons: They could sentence two young Gentlemen to a Punishment almost as bad as standing in the Pillory, besides fining them 100*l.* a-piece, expelling them the College, and condemning them to six Months Imprisonment, only for a Youthful, or (at worst) drunken Frolick; without any Appearance (as their Judges themselves acknowledg'd) of any malicious Design against the Memory of our late glorious Deliverer. That Fact was undoubtedly very blameable; but surely those abovemention'd would have been at least as severely punish'd, had the Persons before whom they were tried, been half so zealous for a certain living Prince, as for a certain dead one; for the Person of Q—*n* A—, as for the Statue of K—*g* W—.

These Exploits of that righteous L. C. J. will questionless be as immortal, as his drinking to the pious Memory of Oliver Cromwell; at least his hearing that Health Drunk in his Company, without Reproof; and his actually drinking Greg's Fate to all Dr. Sashover's Friends.

The *Whigs* then say that we are *Jacobites*, without the least Reason or Evidence: We prove them to be so from their own positive Assertions, and uncontestable Matters of Fact. Besides those already mention'd, what Provision did they make against the *Pretender*, after three Months notice of his intended Expedition? Why, they had a Fleet at Sea to see him pass by, and observe how well his Ships could Sail. By the Providence of God, and contrary Winds, not by the Endeavours of the *Whigs*, he was driven from *Edenborough-Castle*; where if he had landed, he would have found a vast Sum of Money to support him, but no Ammunition to resist him. Is there not reason to think, that instead of opposing him, they invited him over? And does not this agree with what was said by a certain Dissenting Teacher in Her Majesty's Dominions, to a Gentleman of unquestionable Credit? Well (says he) 'tis our turn now; when the *Pretender* was actually sail'd from *Dunkirk*: We are coming uppermost now, and we will be even with you for your Pride and Oppression.

Since they are such Enemies to the *Pretender*, 'tis easie to infer how much they are Friends to the *Hannover Succession*. When they were in full Power, and fear'd nothing, 'twas common with them to ridicule it in Company; and not long since the Style of their Addresses was to mention the *Protestant Succession*, without naming the House of *Hannover*. For whenever they do allow of it, they put it upon such a Foot, as to change our Government either into a *Commonwealth*, or an *Elective Monarchy*; whereas other People clearly reconcile it with *Monarchy* and *Hereditary Right*, both which are Fundamental to our Constitution.

The Use which the *Whigs* make of the *Revolution* is to disprove the Doctrines of the Scriptures, and alter our Form of Government; and to put it upon such Principles as the late King of glorious Memory, and those who join'd and assisted him, expressly disclaimed. We have had a Revolution, therefore (according to the *Whigs*) we must talk and think about nothing else: The Government, upon a very extraordinary Occasion, once receiv'd a Shock; therefore it must never return into its right Course. Revolution Principles must be industriously propagated; and that single Transaction must be of more Force and Authority than a dozen Acts of Parliament, and the Constitution of the Government.

From what has been already taken notice of, 'tis easie to observe, that nothing is more remarkable in the *Whigs*, than their unparallel'd Impudence in Lying. They will positively affirm the most unheard-of Absurdities in Reason, and the most notorious Falshoods in Fact, especially in Matters of Calumny and Slander; and immoveably insist upon both, tho' the former be direct Contradictions in themselves to the common Sense of all Mankind; and the latter have been disprov'd upon the most uncontestable Evidence, an hundred times over. To mention a few Instances out of a thousand; do they not argue and contend, that Occasional Conformity weakens the Interest of the Dissenters? That those are the Queen's best Subjects who deny Her Hereditary Title? And that the Doctrine of Non-resistance tends to the Overthrow of all Government? These Things are as self-evidently

dently false, as it is to say that *Black is White*, or that *Three and Two* don't make *Five*: But 'tis no matter for that; they say, and swear the contrary, and will curse you to the Pit of Hell, if you don't believe them.

In like manner, as to Matters of Fact; how many hundred Lies have they made upon Dr. *Sacheverell*? And how often have they repeated and new vamped them, without any sort of Proof? But one of the most flagrant Instances, is their villainous Forgery upon those 117 Gentlemen, whose Names they printed in a List, as the Names of those who had voted against the *Hannover Succession*. This was publickly disproved by Dr. *Smalridge* and Mr. *Crosse*, who had examined the Journals of the House of Commons: Which one would have thought was sufficient, and might have silenced them upon that Subject for ever. Instead of that, out comes *Pamphlet* after *Pamphlet*, still affirming the former Position. Upon this, Mr. *Jodrel*, Clerk of the House of Commons, gives it under his Hand, that there was no Division upon that Question, extracts the whole Proceeding from the Journals of the House of Commons, and prints it in the *Gazette*, by the Commands of Authority. No matter for that; the *Whigs* still defended their original Lie, publickly and peremptorily insisted upon it, and do insist upon it at this present Writing.

Hither likewise may not improperly be reduced their Impudence in calling all Those a *Faction*, who are not of their own Party and Principles. The Queen, Her Ministry, and Her Parliament, together five parts in six of the whole Kingdom, all defending the Constitution both in Church and State, must all be distinguished by the Name of a *Faction*, only because *there is a Faction* which has Sauciness enough to put that Name upon them.

With what amazing Impudence, and numberless Lies, do they daily pelt the present Ministry? And that too publickly, in print, in Words at length, and not in Dashes only? Telling us, that the *New Managers* will bring in the *Pretender*, *Wooden Shoes*, *French Dragoons*, &c. Thus with a Liberty never taken before, unless by themselves, do they bespatter and traduce those whom Her Majesty has put in Authority under Her, who deserve immortal Honour for their Wisdom, and faithful Services to their Queen and Country; and are blameable for nothing, but for patiently seeing themselves so scandalously abused.

But the most shameful Instance of all, is their late Behaviour upon the intended Assassination of Mr. *Harley*. Which, by the way, is one undeniable Argument, to prove how much the *Tories*, and the present Ministry are for *France*, and the *Pretender*, and how much the *Whigs* abhor that Interest. Which of the late Ministers was stab'd by a *French Papist*? Who brought *Gustav* over? The *Whigs*. Who got him a Regiment in the Name of another, because, being a Papist, he would not take the Oaths to the Queen? The *Whigs*. In short, who maintained and supported the Man, that did stab Mr. *Harley*, and endeavour'd to stab the Q—n? Why all this was performed by the *Whigs*. And 'tis likewise very well known, who THOSE were who DID NOT join in an AD—SS which only assured the Q—n that

that those who made it, would stand by and defend Her, desired Her M——ty to take care of Her sacred Person, and to keep *Parlaments* at a due distance from *London* and *Westminster*.

Well; but how did the *Whigs* without doors, behave themselves upon this Occasion? Why, they expressed no Resentment against that unparallel'd Villany of *Gustard*; but much Mortification at *his* and *their own* Disappointment. They cursed Mr. *St. John* for wounding *Gustard*, and Mr. *Harley* for ONLY being wounded by him: They railed against the Lords of the Council for drawing their Swords against a naked Man, as they were pleased to express themselves. One declared, that *Gustard* had now indeed done very ill by Mr. *Harley*; but if he had stabbed him to the Heart, he had done gloriously.

If the Reader expects I should make *Exclamations* and *Reflections* upon these Passages, upon my Word he is mistaken. I know of no *Language* that can express them, or *Thoughts* that can comprehend them, And so I proceed.

The ill Success which We have lately had in *Spain*, is, by the *Whigs* entirely ascribed to the present Ministry. Tho' all Mankind knows, that so far as it is chargeable upon any Body, it is wholly the Effect of *Whiggish* Management; and that the present Ministry is no more accountable for it, than for what was done a hundred Years ago. But that, and all other our Misfortunes, will be sure to be imputed by the *Whigs* to the present Ministry: which is just as reasonable as if a Man coming into a House ready to fall upon his Head, by the Negligence or Dishonesty of his Predecessor, should by endeavouring to support it, be crushed in its Ruins, and then be cursed and railed at for pulling it down. Never certainly were any Ministers of State so little to be envied, as these are; considering how difficult a Task they have to manage, in struggling with the Enemies of their Country on all sides, with the *French* abroad, and the *Whigs* at home. Whether they will be able to recover our Affairs out of that miserable Condition into which the *Whigs* have plunged them, God only knows; this I am sure of, they will deserve the utmost Praise and Glory, if they are able to do it; and no blame, if they are not. And it is most evident, from what has long since been notorious to all the World, and from what has of late been particularly proved; that if ever the Duke of *Anjou* gets full and quiet Possession of the Spanish Monarchy, he will as really owe his Crown to the *Whigs* of *Great Britain*, as he owes his Birth to the *Dauphin* of *France*.

As to the Religion of the *Whigs*, 'tis of a Piece with their *Politicks*. Neither God nor the Magistrate, hath any Right to prescribe to the People, or to controul them in any thing relating to Religion; nor are the People obliged to have any Religion at all, more than will hinder them from injuring one another; of which they themselves are supreme, and only Judges.

Now in order to establish such a rational and noble Plan of Religion as this; it is absolutely necessary, to reject all Pretences to *Divine Revelation*. Because if God be allowed to interpose in any thing, it will be hard to persuade People that it is not best for them to take all their Religion from Him.

But

But the *Scriptures* being already received, and generally believed in these Countries to be the Word of God; the most likely Method that can be taken to lessen the Power and Influence of the *Christian Religion*, drawn from thence, is to destroy all Notions of a *Church*. Because when Men are united together in a Society, they are more capable of preserving such Religious Customs and Opinions among them as are contrary to this new Model, than they can be when every one is at Liberty to make his own Religion for himself.

The surest way to pull down the Pales of the *Church* and to lay all in *Common*, is to sink the Credit and Interest of the *Christian Ministry*; and if possible, to take away the Order, at least to render it Useless and Insignificant; Because while there is a Ministry suffered, there are so many thousand learned Men listed in the Defence of the *Church*.

For the better compassing of this Point, (the Ruin of the *Christian Ministry*) it is expedient to make the principal Attack against the *Church of England*; that being the best constituted Church in the World, and its Ministers being Men of the greatest Learning. The Mark which the *Whigs*, as well as *Papists*, always have aimed at, and ever will aim at, is the Established National Church of England, as being the most considerable in *Christendom* for its Learning, and for the *Purity of its Doctrine and Discipline*; and the most considerable among the *Reformed Churches* for the Number, Quality, Power, and Riches of its Clergy.

The way by which the *Whigs* endeavour to break the *Church of England*, is to divide the Clergy among themselves; to set the Laity against them all, as their Mortal Enemies, to unite all the Sects against the whole Church, both Laity and Clergy; to promote and dignify those of the Clergy, who both in Principles and Practice are the greatest Scandal to their Profession, and to employ their Hackney Scriblers to vilify and abuse all the rest. I say, to promote the worst of the Clergy; for there are undoubtedly some few bad ones even among them: Which may be acknowledged without casting any Reproach upon the Order in general.

And indeed of all *Whigs* a Whig-Clergyman is the greatest Monster; as the Abuse of the best Things is always the worst. What can be more shocking and unnatural than for a Man of that sacred Character to vilify the Rubrick, Canons, Articles, and Doctrines of the Church; to slight its Ordinances, and act contrary to them, to relax its Discipline, and lessen its Authority; to despise the Judgment of the Primitive Fathers, and make the very Essentials of the Church to be Things indifferent? And yet this is the open Practice of many of the Whig-Clergy. Even the best of them, the gravest and most sober, and those who have more Prudence than to talk at that rate, constantly promote the Interest of the most profligate Whigs, and Vote for those, who never fail to Vote against the Church. Is it not infamous for a Dignitary to preach a Funeral Sermon for an Atheist of Quality, to make a Panegyrick upon him, smooth over his Vices, and lay it down as a Point of Doctrine, that the lowdest of Sinners cannot well be damned, provided he be a Lord and a Wit? And is it not a Scandal to Christianity to see the Ministers of *Christ* complemented

and

and encouraged by his professed Enemies? To hear the Piety, Prudence and Moderation of a Church of *England* Divine, extolled to the Skies by Fanaticks, Rakes and Atheists? To have such a Mischreant as *W——n* introduce a Man of that Function into one of his Infidel Cabals, desiring the Company to let him come in, and swearing by his Maker, *He's an honest Man, tho' a Parson?* Is it not shameful for a Divine to herd with those who make no use of him, but only to ruin the Church, and disgrace his own Order? And must it not be matter of the greatest Grief to that Reverend Body? Their only way, I think, to do themselves Justice, is frankly to own (what all the World knows, whether they own it or no) that there are some few *Fa'se Brethren* even among Them; the generality of them heartily detesting such Practices and Principles. The Whigs indeed lay the Reproach of immoral Living upon the *High flying Clergy*, as they call them; that is, upon *all* the Clergy, a very few excepted. And there is no way to answer this, but to say, that all the World knows it to be a direct notorious Lye; and that there is no Body of Men in this Nation, or in the Universe, more exemplary than they are, for Piety and Goodness, as well as renowned for Parts and Learning, and true Christian Courage, in the worst of Times. Those few of the Clergy who live ill Lives, are chiefly among the Whigs; tho' the other side has a Majority of that Order by about a hundred to one. But there are no *Har——s's*, *God——d's*, *Lam——r's*, or *Couch——r's* among the true Church-Clergy; and the Whiggism of here and there One, ought not sure to cast a Blemish upon all the rest, even tho' the *Lowest Church-man* were in the *Highest Preferments*. Our Saviour had but Twelve Apostles, and One of them was a Traytor; and yet I never heard, that because *Judas* was a Whig, the other Eleven Apostles were reckoned bad Disciples. Now there is not near so great a Proportion of Whigs among the *English Clergy*, as *One in Twelve*. That Body consists of at least 20000 Men; and suppose there were but 100 bad ones among them, yet if *they only* were picked and culled out of all the rest to be put into the highest Dignities, they would no doubt make a mighty Figure, do infinite Mischief to the Church, and reflect Scandal enough upon the whole Clergy, tho' without any reason. Now to prefer *such as these*, has ever been the Practice of the Whigs. And should it happen that a Hater of Episcopacy should even be made a B——p; 'tis not to be expected that his *Nature* would be changed with his *Condition*; he would continue partial in favour of the Dissenters; continue his dull, incoherent, nonsensical Cant in *defence of Occasional Conformity*, and *against the Doctrine of the Scriptures*; prefer History and Matter of Fact, and that too the worst Matter of Fact, his *own Actions*, before the express Declarations of the *Word of God*; rail at the Universities, and abuse the Episcopal Clergy with the same Malice as before, and still have a greater Respect for *Scottish Cloth* than for *Lawn*.

So that were the highest Preferments generally given to some of those few (those very few) *Clergymen* who are *false Churchmen*; we should have no cause to wonder, nor to reflect upon the rest of that Venerable Body, should we even see a Majority of P——tes continually

continually voting and speaking against the Church; condemning the Doctrines which Christ, and his Apostles, and they themselves have preach'd, and entirely bent upon worldly Politicks, Plots and Intrigues. It would not then be strange, to have one of that Order forget the Character of a B——, of a Clergyman, and even of a Christian; discountenance and abuse the Members of the Church, for converting Dissenters from their Schism; chuse to send for the Presbyterian Preacher, to converse with him at his Lodgings upon the Road, and take no notice of the Minister of the Parish; express all imaginable Spleen and Spight against the Clergy, cringe to a Fanatick for his Interest, and to an Atheist for a better B——k. It would not be astonishing to have the C——nv——n render'd useless by its own Pr——nt, and the the Designs of its worthy Members baffled, for fear they should pass some Censure or other upon Blasphemy and Heresie; to have an A. B. of C. led by the Nose, and intirely rul'd by a *Profest Deist*; to have the *Governour of the Church* pin all his Faith upon an *Infidel*, and implicitly believe him that does not believe one word of the *Christian Religion*.

But before the *Church* can be destroy'd, it is necessary to run down the *Two Universities*, which are inexhaustible Magazines of Learning and Virtue, of good Sense and good Principles; and therefore are the perpetual Objects of *Whiggish* and *Fanatical* Rage, Envy and Malice. It is *There* that Men are taught to be good Subjects, good Churchmen, and good Christians: It is *There* that young Gentlemen learn to *Argue*, to unravel the Fallacies of the *Whigs*; to despise their Cant, expose their Nonsense, and detest their Villanies. In order therefore to ruin the *Church*, it is as necessary to destroy the *Universities*, as it is to reduce two strong Forts which cover a Besieg'd Town, before the Town it self can be taken. Accordingly, the *Whigs* play all their Batteries against those Learned Bodies, which they so much fear and hate: Against them they plant all their Artillery of Lies and Slander, representing them as Nurseries of *Slavery* and *Debauchery*; whereas they are Nurseries of no Principles, but those of the *Scriptures*, of the *Church* and *State of England*; and with respect to *Morality* and *Behaviour*, there is nothing of that Nature this day in the World more wonderful and surprizing, than the exquisite Discipline and Regularity of those Places. And who are they that affirm the contrary? Either such as had never the Honour of an University-Education, or who have made a most infamous use of it. And observe it when you will, it will always be found, that the *Church-of-England-Universities*, are condemn'd by none but Those who were either never of them, or a Scandal to them.

To shew you what an Affection the *Whigs* have for those Fountains of Learning; when a certain famous Bill was depending in the House of C——ns, they were extremely concern'd to secure the Universities of North-Britain. And a Motion being made, and the Question being put, That the same Security be granted to the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge; It pass'd in the Negative.

To avoid the Contagion of those Places, the *Whigs* either give their young Gentlemen and Noblemen only a Domestick Education, under illiterate *French* Tutors, whose business it is to teach them Languages and Sciences, which they themselves know nothing of; and to Principle them betimes in a Hatred against the Church and Constitution of *England*: Or else with the same Righteous Intention; they send them to *Leyden*, *Utrecht*, or *Geneva*, or some other Foreign University; there to be impregnated with Presbyterian and Republican Doctrines, and to imbibe all imaginable Prejudices against *Monarchy* and *Episcopacy*; because, according to the Constitution of the Government to which they are born Subjects, they ought to be heartily and affectionately zealous for *Both*.

In order to effect the said pious Design of *ruining the Church*, the *Whigs* are, upon all occasions, extremely partial in the Cause of the *Dissenters*. They first put the *Toleration* upon a level with the *Constitution*; and then prefer the former before the latter. They have so much Zeal for the *Toleration*, that they have none left for the *Constitution*. A Man can't do one Thing, or speak one Word in behalf of the *Establish'd Church*, but immediately the *Dissenters* will be *disoblig'd*, and apprehend their *Toleration* to be in danger. Is it not enough to raise the Indignation of any Body that has the Spirit of a Man, and the Concern of a Christian, to see the best and most glorious Church in the World, abus'd and affronted in so insolent a manner, as to have its Interest sacrific'd to the perverse Humours of a paltry, illiterate, seditious Faction of Schismatics? To hear a *canting*, *Fanatical Lawyer* (and the worse Fanatick for pretending to be a Churchman) plead for the imaginary Rights of the *Dissenters*, against the real Rights of the *Establish'd Church*? For some of the *Whigs*, I own, will go to Church; but 'tis only to have an Opportunity of ruining it more effectually. They will sometimes go to it; but never yet were known to *Vote* for it. The *Dissenters* must not be *disoblig'd*, even by an *Act of Parliament*; and that too to prevent the most *shameful Hypocrisie* that ever was heard of. But the true *Members of the Church* must be plagu'd and harass'd only for being so; they are *inconsiderable*, and their Money goes for nothing towards the carrying on of the War. The *Dissenters* must not be made *unease*, even by the making of a most necessary *Law*, by the Authority of the whole Legislative Power; but the true *Churchmen* may be *prosecuted*, *torn in pieces*, and us'd no matter how, either *without Law*, or *contrary to it*. So despicable is the Church! So powerful the *Dissenters*! So much is the *Toleration* more worthy than the *Constitution*!

The *Whigs* indeed, by virtue of a Self-Contradiction, argue both ways about the Number and Power of the *Dissenters*. In one part of a *Speech*, they are so *inconsiderable*, that there is no danger from them; in another part of the same *Speech*, and almost in the same Breath, they are *too considerable to be disoblig'd*.

Tho' they are indeed very *inconsiderable*, they would be much more so, were it not for the *Whigs*, who join in the same Interest. Not that they have any Kindness or Respect for them; but they make

make use of them as a sort of Vermin fit to do Mischief. And so far I must confess They are in the right. Were there no *Dissenters*, the *Whigs* would have no *Tools* to work with: But *Atheism* is never in so flourishing a Condition, as when it is aided and supported by *Schism*.

But with what Face can any Man pretend to be a Church-man, who openly encourages so inexcusable a Generation? A Generation condemn'd by all Churches of the Christian World, whether Episcopal or Presbyterian; and by Writers of all Denominations, from St. Paul down to John Calvin. A Set of Men, whose Schism (tho' there may be some ignorant *Well-meaners* among them) is the most unjustifiable and unreasonable that ever was heard of in any Age of the Gospel; and proceeds from *Pride* and *Self-conceit*, from *Obstinacy* and *Perverseness*, from *Singularity* and the *Spirit of Contradiction*; from a *saucy*, *turbulent*, and *rebellious* Temper, from their *hating Order*, and *loving Confusion*. Who are come to such a Pitch of Insolence, that because they are suffer'd to go unpunish'd, (which by the bye, is more than they deserve) they now presume to think themselves upon an equal Foot with the Establish'd Church, and even to be qualified for Places of Trust and Power; a thing unheard of in any other Nation of the World, that those should be in the *Government*, who are not of the *Constitution*: Nay, who are arriv'd to such a height of Presumption, as to erect a kind of *Schismatical Universities* and *Seminaries of Scrupulous Consciences*; contrary to all Sense and Reason, in open Defiance to the *Laws of the Land*, even to that very *Law* by which their Toleration it self is granted. A Favour, by the way, which they would never grant to the Members of the Church, when they had a Power of denying it in this Part of *Great Britain*; and which They actually do deny them in another Part of it, at this very Day. They Persecute Us There; and complain that They are Persecuted *Themselves*, because They have not the Power of Persecuting us *Here*. In short, a Set of Men, who by their groundless Separation are the Cause of all that Uncharitableness and Unchristian Rage of Parties, which has almost destroy'd all Conversation among Us; and who have directly or indirectly been the Authors of all our Troubles and Confusions, from the beginning of the Reformation to this very Day.

This is Their Behaviour in *Britain*, where they have a *Toleration* by Law; how is it in *Ireland*, where They have none? Why, in that Kingdom, especially in the Northern Parts of it, which are Peopled chiefly by a Colony from *Scotland*, they are by the Countenance and Encouragement of the *Whigs*, so Impudent and Presumptuous, that in open Contempt of the Laws and Magistrates, they hold formal Assemblies, Classes and Synods, as if they were a Part of the National Constitution; and this when several, even of their Teachers have not taken the Oaths to Her Majesty, and glory in their refusing to do it; one of whom particularly, went into *Scotland*, when the Pretender was ready to Land there: They abuse the Doctrines and Discipline of the Church with all imaginable Rage and Malice, will not suffer it's Members so much as to live in their

Neighbourhood, threaten with Death, and actually assault the Episcopal Clergy. So that those who have the Establishment of the Law on their side, are actually in a State of Persecution from those who are not so much as Tolerated by it; and to compare the Behaviour of the Dissenters there, with their Behaviour in *Great Britain*, they seem to contend and strive with one another, whether they can be more insolent with a Toleration, or without one.

Upon the same Principle of Hatred against the Church, the *Whigs* have an implacable Aversion to all Ecclesiastical Courts, Jurisdiction and Authority. The Wealth and the Power of the Church, are two Things which they cannot bear: The *one* they would have in *their own Hands*, the *other* they would have in *no Hands at all*.

By these Ways and Means the Establish'd Church is to be destroy'd; and lest any Religious Party should grow too strong, this Principle of the *Whigs* is constantly to be taught, and instill'd into the People; that no Body is to be govern'd or directed by a Majority in any the most indifferent Things relating to the Worship of God; by which means all Bonds of Religious Societies being broken, the Doctrines upheld by them, will soon be scatter'd and lost.

What Name then is to be given to Men of these Principles and Measures? And under what Religious Distinctions shall we range them? The *Church of England* they hate; the *Dissenters* of all Sects they despise, though they make use of them to serve their own Turn: *Latitudinarian* is too comprehensive a Word for them, and may take in more Religion than they are willing to have. Though many of them profess *Deism*, yet they cannot properly be call'd *Deists*, without meaning something else by *God*, than either Christians, *Jews*, *Turks*, or Heathens, ever understood by that Word: They are, indeed, for a *State of Nature*, but without any *Natural Religion* in it. Whatever Questions, therefore, are put to them concerning their Faith and Worship; the only Answer they have to make, is That they are *Whigs*, and by their Fruits we shall know them better.

The *Whigs* then are the most profligate Set of Men, that ever this, or any other Nation produc'd: Who are not content to be lewd and wicked, unbelieving and profane themselves; but are industrious to propagate such Notions, and encourage such Men, as are likely to bring Lewdness and Irreligion into Fashion and Credit.

In order to this end, they have formed several *Clubs* and *Companies*; which I can compare to nothing but the Nocturnal Cabals of Witches, or the Consultations of the Devils in *Milton's Pandemonium*. Besides their *Junto*, which is somewhat of another Nature, there is their *Calves-head Feast*, their *Grecian Coffee house*; and their *Kit cat*. Cabals in which God is defied, and his Religion cur'd: Where the chief Entertainment is Profaneness; where the wittiest Ridicule of the Scriptures is the most acceptable Discourse; and the newest Species of Blasphemy the surest Recommendation to the President's Chair. And such is the Zeal of these Societies for propagating and establishing Infidelity in all Parts, that they vie and strive with each other, who shall appear best qualified for that

eminent Service. One Instance of which noble Emulation we had some time ago, between the *Kitecat* and the *Toasters*; when a *Prologue* was made by one, and an *Epilogue* by t'other, too blasphemous for the Players to speak.

Were one to dive into all the Secrets of that infernal Cabal, the *Calves-head Club*; what a frightful Scene would be disclosed! Some of them have been blab'd out, by which one may guess at the rest. 'Tis pretty well known who that Person of Quality is, who being call'd upon, at that solemn Assembly, to drink to the Memory (I have forgot whether 'twas *glorious Memory* or no) of the *Man in the Mask* (meaning the Executioner that cut off the King's Head) replied, with scorn, *The Man in the Mask? Here's to the Man that dares do the same thing without a Mask!*

And as the *Whigs* make use of their *Natural Right*, to form what *Companies of this kind they please*; so they have their Emissaries every where, to carry on their Business according to the Resolutions taken in those Councils. Some of them are employ'd at home, to ridicule all the Common Places and Methods of Education; others to debauch young Gentlemen as soon as they come to Town, and to wash out any Tincture of Religion they may have receiv'd, before it sink too deep into their Minds. Others are sent abroad to meet such Persons of Quality and Estate as are returning from their Travels, and to press them for the Service of the Devil and the *Whigs*, before any *Church-Relations* have given them pernicious Notions of Religion and Government.

And as they have their peculiar *Missionaries*, whose Office it is to make new Converts; so they have a sort of *Confessors* too, in their way, who attend upon their Friends and Proselytes in their Sickness, in order to keep Priests from coming at them; to hinder them from taking the Sacrament; to jest upon any Religious Thoughts that may disturb them; and to make them *die hard*, as they call it. Dr. K—— can inform us, if he pleases, who it was that talked so profanely to the D—ke of D——re, that when he was dying, he could not hear his Discourse.

Was not the New Play-house in the *Haymarket* built chiefly by *Whig-Contributions*? Was it not in their impious manner *Anti-consecrated*, as it were, by a *Whig-Prologue*, in Praise of Play-houses above Churches? And did They not among them make a *Poetical Creed*, to Burlesque That of the *Apostles*?

Are not all the Writers for Deism and Irreligion, *Whigs*? Such as the ingenious Authors of the *Growth of Deism*, *Letter about Church-Communion*, *Letter about Enthusiasm*, *Danger of Priestcraft*, *Rights of the Church*, and twenty others? Are not such Writers maintain'd by *Whig-Contributions*? And did not the old *Whig-Scrivener* leave Ten Pound a Year to the Chief Journy-man of his Infidel Club?

Are not all the *Socinians* about Town encourag'd and promoted by *Whigs*? And are not all their Pamphlets printed at the Charge of *Whigs*? Was not *Whiston* immediately taken into their Pay and Protection, as soon as he declar'd himself a Heretick? And were

not

not the *Camisier-Prophets* long Supported by the same Encouragement?

In short, there is no bold or ridiculous Notion of Religion started in the World, but the *Whigs* are presently at work to improve it against Christianity in general; and the Authors of all such Libertine Opinions are highly caress'd by them, without any other Merit to recommend them.

These are the Men whom the Author of *the Rights* sets up for the sole Managers and Conductors in his New Model of Government; who by the Church mean themselves; by Religion their own Power, Dominion and Interest; and look upon every thing else to be of a mutable Nature, either good or bad, according as it makes for, or against those Ends.

And should these Men ever get to be the *People*, the *Sovereign*, the *Magistrates*, and the *Representatives*; O! What a blessed Nation would this be! When the Clergy, if any were allow'd, would be all as good and religious Men as *Ste—ns*; the Lay-Gentry as sober and vertuous as *T—dal*; the Citizens and Traders as just and honest as was the good Sir *R—rs C—t—on*; The Lords would be more Honourable than all these; and yet in their Catalogue of such Worthies, none would attain to their *first Three*.

Then would be the most proper time for the *Whigs* to shew their Temper and Moderation in their full Extent; which, I day say, would be exercis'd in such a manner, as to increase the Subjects of the *Czar of Muscovy*, the *Grand Seignior*, or the *French King*.

For they have their *Creed*, (such as it is) set down at length in their *Rights of the Church*; and whoever would not give his unfeign'd Assent and Consent to every Article of it, must lead a very scurvy Life under those new Governors.

Their Magistrate is oblig'd to punish all those that will not in express Terms renounce what they call the *Doctrine of Persecution*. And are not all those who acknowledge a *Christian Ministry*, deriv'd from Christ and his Apostles, setters up of an *independent Power*, which has so many persecuting Doctrines in the Belly of it, that it is not to be endur'd; and such a *Power of Ordination* in the Clergy, as is inconsistent with the Magistrate's Right to protect the *Commonwealth*?

Their Magistrate is likewise oblig'd to punish, under the Notion of *Immorality*, all such *Superstition* as does not immediately tend to the Good of the *Commonwealth*, and to restrain the Effects of it by Force. And will not the *Christian Religion* come under this Character, as entrenching upon that *State of Nature* we are born in, by requiring us to believe several Speculative *Doctrines*, and to practice several *Duties* with relation to God, and our selves, which seem to have no direct Influence upon the *Publick Happiness*?

Some have thought to recommend themselves to the *Whigs*, by declaring against the *Sacramental Test*; but that would not take; without renouncing all *Sacraments* as well as the *Test*, nothing was to be done.

Others have frequented the *Grecian Coffee-House*, and have comply'd so far with their Friends there as to own themselves *Socinians*, in hopes of making an Interest in them by that means. But not being hardy enough to deny *Jesus Christ*, as well as his *Divinity*; they were forc'd to retire in Discontent.

Every Body has heard of their famous Health to all those that believe neither in the *BRICKLATER's NOR IN THE CARPENTER's SON*. And since I utterly despair of converting the *Whigs* to Christianity; I wish, at least, that they would drink one part of the Health as sincerely as the other; and renounce the *Pretender*, as heartily as they do our *Saviour*.

Nay such is the Tyranny of the *Whigs* in this respect, that they will not let you be a *Deist* upon any Scheme, but their own; but you must abandon *Hobbs*, as well as our *Saviour*, if you will be their Disciple.

These then being the *Principles* of the *Present Set of Whigs*; it is humbly hop'd, that all, of what Denomination soever, who are concern'd for *Vertue* and *Religion*, for common *Honesty*, and common *Sense*, for the *Constitution* of our *Church* and *State* in this *World*, and for the good of their *Souls* in the next, will unite against such a *Wicked*, *Unreasonable*, *Rebellious*, *Antimonarchical*, *Antichristian* *Generation*: And such an *Union* in the *Common Cause* of our *QUEEN* and *Country*, of *GOD* and *Goodness*, will prove the most effectual way to make up all the less considerable *Differences* among us.

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